MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No account has been kept.

(*c*) The cost of working them as fuel from the interior forests is so prohibitive that no one will care to collect them even if allowed at seigniorage rate or even less.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In regard to answers to question (*a*) and (*b*) may I know from the member why accounts are not kept of outer slabs and top ends of trees available inside the Forest Reserves useful for fuel?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider it worthwhile to keep accounts.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that the trees are in great demand for fuel in the important towns of the State?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government are aware that there is a large demand for fuel in the towns.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know from Government whether it would not be a saving for the Government if these trees are transported by the Department itself or through Government contract as fuel?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider it feasible.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know whether it is not a loss for the Government to neglect these outer slabs and top ends?

PRESIDENT: He has already admitted that it is a loss.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know whether the Government have tried to dispose these trees by calling tenders?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government did not consider it worthwhile to do so.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether Government have tried to sell off these trees?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It does not appear that there is any special reason to make the trial.

Stationary Magistrate, Nedumangad.

67 *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that there are only third class powers for the Stationary Magistrate at Nedumangad;

(*b*) whether they are aware that there is no other Magistrate in the taluk excepting the Magistrate with the third class powers; and

(*c*) whether they are aware that due to the absence of second class powers, even cases involving motor offences are not tried in Nedumangad Magistrate's Court?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The Stationary Magistrate, Nedumangad, has since been invested with second class powers.

(*b*) and (*c*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) these do not arise.

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MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know from Government with reference to answer to part (*a*) of the question how long this particular official has been a third class Magistrate before he was given the powers of the Second Class Magistrate?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): For about 2 months, I think.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know from Government whether they have followed any definite principle in the conferment of Second Class Magistrate's powers on a Third Class Magistrate?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, they go by the recommendations of the District Magistrates.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know Sir, whether the Government consider that two months' work as a Third Class Magistrate is sufficient qualification to enable him to exercise the powers of the Second Class Magistrate?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The District Magistrate recommended that the particular Third Class Magistrate could be invested with the Second Class powers and the Government sanctioned the recommendation.

Government Sales Depot at Trivandrum.

68 ***SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what the functions of (i) the Government Sales Depot, Trivandrum, and (ii) the Sri Mulam Shashtiabdapurthi Institute, Trivandrum, are; and

(*b*) whether, as a measure of retrenchment, the Government have considered the desirability of entrusting the functions of the former to the latter?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): (*a*) (i). The functions of the Sales Depot are:

(1) Finding out markets for the products of cottage industries.

(2) The advertisement of the products.

(3) The exhibition of such products for the information of the public and for sales.

(4) Serving as a trading agency.

(5) Serving as an advising body for giving suggestions to the cottage industrialists for the improvement of their industries.

(6) Giving facilities for them to modify their designs to suit the changing tastes of the consumers, etc.

II. The Sri Mulam Shashtiabdapurthi Memorial Institute functions as a Museum for the display of the various industrial and agricultural and other products, machinery, tools, etc.

(*b*) No. The institute is not a Government institution nor is it capable of undertaking the functions expected of the Sales Depot. The question of transfer of the function has not therefore been considered.

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